

Radiant Restorations

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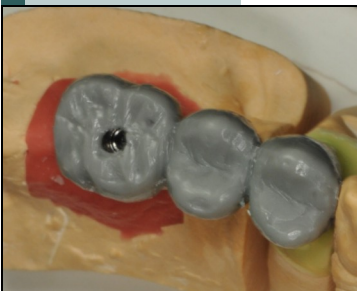
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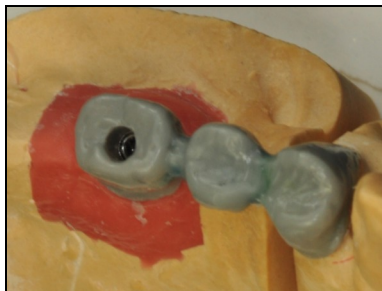
Stress Breaker Bridge over Implant

The Crocus milled stress breaker bridge was featured in a recent newsletter. Although this case shows a stress breaker bridge, it is slightly different because it includes a screw retained implant crown. Again, stress breaker bridges are indicated where it is impossible to create a common path of insertion for the abutment or where it is necessary to minimize rocking forces on intermediate (pier) abutments.

The patient previously had two adjacent implants in place of teeth three and four. The implant for tooth number four was removed due to complications and the patient did not want to undergo the implant process again, yet wanted fixed restorations. A fixed bridge connecting implants and natural teeth is generally not advised because movement of the natural tooth abutment would put unfavorable forces on the implant. The doctor and technician decided that a stress breaker bridge would help to stabilize the abutment tooth and prevent those forces on the implant. A screw retained implant crown was used so that access could be made to the implant if needed and the male part of the bridge would remain in place.



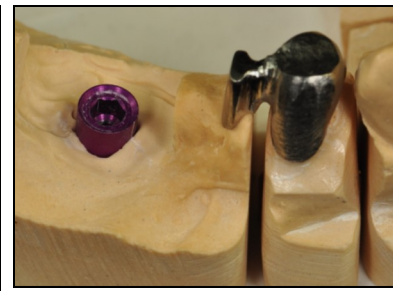
Full contour wax up of three unit stress breaker bridge.



Cut-Back of wax-up



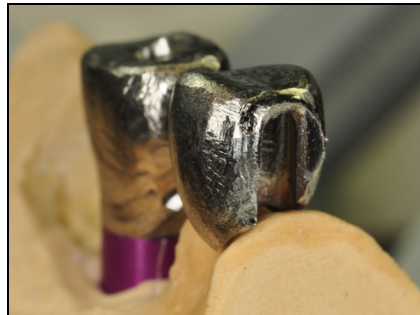
Wax-up is cut down the center of the bicuspid. A rough mill is done of the male part.



The finished male part after it is cast and milled a final time.



The Female part is waxed over stress breaker to assure the correct path of insertion with the implant.



The finished female part after casting and finishing.



Buccal view of finished metal framework.



Male and Female parts after porcelain is applied.



Because the parts are inverted, no metal is visible on the occlusal surface.



Buccal view of finished stress breaker bridge which includes a screw retained implant crown.

Custom Shades at Renstrom Dental Studio



“Seeing the patient also gives the technician a chance to talk with them and fully understand what their expectations are.”

When presented with a difficult shade, especially in the esthetic zone, we encourage our local doctors to send their patients to the lab for a custom shade. There are many reasons why we recommend this, but most important is that it gives the technician the opportunity to see the restorative situation first hand. The technician can then use a variety of tools to develop a visual blueprint for the restoration. Seeing the patient also gives the technician a chance to talk with them one on one and fully understand what their expectations are. The new and improved shade room at Renstrom has color corrected lighting, neutral wall colors, and devices used when taking tooth shades. One of these devices is a digital camera, allowing the technician to take digital dental images which are referred to when fabricating life like restorations. We make every effort to treat your patients as professionally as you would in your office and to make your patient’s visit to Renstrom a pleasant experience.

There are a few things that we ask of our doctors and their patients in regard to custom shades. If these simple guidelines are followed we can expect a more predictable outcome for the patient.

1. The best time for the patients shade to be taken is during the week before the prep appointment.
2. The shade appointment should be made as soon as possible so that the case is finished in time for the planned seat date.
3. If the teeth have already been prepped the patient must wait at least 24 hours before their shade appointment so that the teeth can fully rehydrate. (Still make the appointment ASAP)
4. If the patient is bleaching they must wait at least a week (preferably two) after they are finished before their shade is taken. This allows time for the final tooth shade to stabilize.

General Custom Shade Reminders

- Shade appointments can be made Monday thru Thursday 8:00AM – 3:30PM. Special arrangements can be made if these times are not feasible for the patient.
- We greatly appreciate a phone call if the patient cannot make it or will be late. The technician has set aside this block of time so that they can devote themselves solely to the patient.
- Patients can expect to be at the lab for roughly 30 minutes. During this time they may see one to two technicians so that photos can be taken of the shade tabs near their teeth.

If you would like an informative sheet to give your patients regarding their custom shade at Renstrom Dental Studio please let us know! For those doctors out of the metro area- please call for a tip sheet on shade taking in your office.

Case Study Project

From a lab’s perspective, the best case results are achieved when all participants (doctor, patient, and technician) work closely together. This way we can better predict the outcome and be confident that all expectations will be met. With this in mind, Renstrom would like to do studies on cases now through December 31, 2010. Whether or not you perform unique complex cases regularly, keep this in mind for your next case and let us know if you’d be interested! There are really no regulations. We will document the entire process that takes place throughout the lab on a step by step basis. The study can be displayed in our newsletter and even in your office for patients to see. The patient featured in the case study is usually pretty excited about being involved as well. Provided we get enough participation from doctors, we hope to award one of the doctors with a discount on their submitted case.



You can find past case studies at www.renstrom.com

PFZ...Porcelain Fused to Zirconia

In the competitive world of dental materials, companies are endlessly proclaiming the superiority of their brand, and this is especially true of the zirconia market. Doctors and dental labs are bombarded by marketing hype and non-scientific claims about the advantages of one zirconia system over another. This has resulted in confusion for dentists and labs alike.

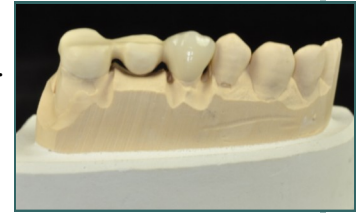
Zirconia, also known as zirconium dioxide, is an oxide of the metal zirconium. Since the late 90's, thousands of zirconia copings, frameworks, and abutments have been made each day worldwide. The majority of these systems both name brand and generic, use a virtually identical zirconia composition with the only difference being the milling platform used to process it (and also of course the advertising budget). When it comes to the success and longevity of zirconia restorations, substructure design is most critical. Improper and uneven porcelain support can create stresses in areas eventually causing the crown to chip or fracture.

To prevent this from happening, zirconia substructures at Renstrom are designed so that there is no more than 2mm of unsupported porcelain, especially interproximally. Manufacturers may argue their systems advantages, but it's the proper steps taken during fabrication that can truly distinguish these restorations. Once the properly designed substructure is made, it is the care and skill with which the porcelain is stacked and fired that determines the durability of the porcelain.

The doctor also plays an important role in the success of zirconia restorations. The tooth preparation should be free of sharp edges or other irregularities and have a well defined, smooth flowing margin. A round ended taper diamond of approximately 1.6mm diameter should work best for creating an exaggerated chamfer margin at least 1 mm wide. When seating zirconia restorations and minor adjustments are made, a fine diamond should be used with plenty of water. This will avoid overheating

which could possibly lead to micro-fractures. If you have questions regarding prep design or bur selection please give Dr. Jeff Benson a call here at the lab.

With the doctor and the laboratory working together, we can be confident in the success of porcelain fused to zirconia restorations. At Renstrom we guarantee the craftsmanship of our work for five years because we believe in the products we deliver. If given the opportunity to reduce our costs, you can be sure to see those savings passed on to our doctors. Doctors can simply write PFZ on their prescription and know that they are getting a quality zirconia restoration.



“Doctors and dental labs are bombarded by marketing hype and non-scientific claims about the advantages of one zirconia system over another.”

Redesign of Renstrom Dental Studio

Things have been a little out of the norm over the past few months at Renstrom Dental Studio. The laboratory began its renovation plans in June and is now just adding the finishing touches to complete the project. We are excited about the changes and look forward to the many improvements that have been made throughout the lab. For starters, the porcelain and crown and bridge departments have been moved closer to one another rather than on separate ends of the laboratory. This will allow for better communication and teamwork between the technicians and also improve the workflow throughout the lab. We now have a room designed specifically for our CAD/CAM equipment and other technical machines which we refer to as the digital technology center. Another room that has been enhanced is our meeting room in which we plan to hold future seminars for doctors and assistants. A smaller conference room has also been designed for meetings and online education programs that technicians can take part in. We've made some upgrades to our custom shade room as well, and we're eager to see more of our patients here at the lab.

These being only some of the improvements made at the lab, we hope that you will come see it all for yourself at our open house on September 16th. This will be a great opportunity to meet the technicians and also see the newest advancements in dental technology.





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Our goal is to get you patient referrals with every case we do!

Upcoming Events

Renstrom Events

Renstrom Dental Studio Backyard BBQ

Thursday, September 16th

12:00p.m-7:00p.m.

E.max lunch and learn

Give us a call and we'll come directly to your office!

Other Local Events

Twin Cities Dental Implant Programs 2010-2011

9/17/10, 11/5/10, 2/2/11

Minnesota Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry: Marketing your Dental Practice with a Purpose

John Gordon, DDS

9/24/10 8:30AM- 4:00PM

Edina, MN

Complex Restorative Procedures for the general dentist

10/1/10- 10/2/10

Lake Elmo, MN

If you would like more information on any of the above courses, please give us a call at the lab.